

What is claimed is:

1. A drive assembly for an infusion pump, the assembly comprising:

a. a barrel, the barrel characterized by a longitudinal barrel axis of rotation and a clearance hole in a barrel end;

5 b. a rotating drive screw, the drive screw having a longitudinal screw axis and exterior threads, the screw axis displaced from and parallel to the barrel axis; and

c. a plunger rod, the rod having threads at least part of its length, the rod inserted through the clearance hole, the rod threads removably engageable with the screw threads by rotating the barrel about the barrel axis.

10 2. A drive assembly according to claim 1, the assembly further including:

d. a reservoir of variable volume including a plunger in engagement with the plunger rod, the plunger when axially displaced causing a change in volume in the reservoir; and

e. a locking hub, the hub in mechanical connection with the reservoir and the barrel, the hub capable of rotating the barrel forcing the rod threads into and out of mechanical engagement with the drive screw threads.

15 3. A drive assembly according to claim 1 wherein the drive screw threads and the rod threads are buttress threads.

4. A drive assembly according to claim 1 wherein the barrel further includes a locking tab to inhibit rotation of the barrel about the barrel axis.

20 5. A drive assembly according to claim 2 wherein the barrel further includes a locking tab to inhibit rotation of the barrel about the barrel axis and the locking hub includes a flange, the flange for dislodging the locking tab allowing the barrel to rotate.

6. A reservoir assembly for infusing fluids comprising:

a. a reservoir of variable volume, the reservoir characterized by a longitudinal reservoir axis;

b. a plunger connected to the bottom of the reservoir; and

5 c. a plunger rod coupled to the plunger, the plunger when axially displaced causing a change in volume in the reservoir, the rod having threads at least part of its length, the threads capable of engagement with a drive screw having exterior threads and an axis displaced from, and parallel to, the reservoir axis.

7. A drive assembly according to claim 2 wherein the locking hub further includes an

10 adapter, the adapter for receiving the reservoir, the adapter providing an axial offset to the reservoir so that the plunger rod threads can engage with the drive screw threads.

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